

## Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A micro-optic light emitting array comprising a plurality of vertical cavity surface-emitting lasers,

wherein the plurality of vertical cavity surface-emitting lasers are arranged in a two-dimensional configuration of at least three rows and columns that are diagonally staggered in a parallelogram pattern along a process direction,

wherein the acute angle between the column and the process direction ( $\theta$ ) of the parallelogram pattern is defined by the following formula:  $\theta = \arctan(d/(r N_p))$ , wherein  $d$  is the distance between columns of emitters,  $r$  is the distance between rows of emitters, and  $N_p$  is the number of beams per column, and

wherein each vertical cavity surface-emitting laser emits a laser beam focused with a micro-optic element.

2. (original) The micro-optic light emitting array according to claim 1, wherein the micro-optic element has a diameter up to about 2.5 to 4.0 times larger than Full Width at Half Maximum of the emitted laser beam at the micro-optic element.

3-7 (cancelled).

8. (original) A laser printbar imager assembly comprising a plurality of micro-optic light emitting arrays according to claim 1.

9-13 (cancelled).

14. (original) The laser printbar imager assembly according to claim 8, wherein the lasers within a particular array are switched on at different times.

15. (currently amended) A xerographic printing system comprising:

a laser printbar imager assembly including a plurality of micro-optic light emitting arrays including a plurality of vertical cavity surface emitting lasers, wherein the plurality of vertical cavity surface-emitting lasers are arranged in a two-dimensional configuration of at least three rows and columns that are diagonally staggered in a parallelogram pattern along a process direction, wherein the acute angle between the column and process direction ( $\theta$ ) of the parallelogram pattern is defined by the following formula:  $\theta = \arctan(d/(r N_p))$ , wherein  $d$  is the distance between the columns of emitters,  $r$  is the distance between rows of emitters, and  $N_p$  is the number of beams per column, and wherein each vertical cavity surface emitting laser emits a laser beam focused with a micro-optic element;

a photoreceptor which receives said emitted light and holds a charge image; and  
xerographic developer which applies toner to charged or uncharged areas of said photoreceptor produced by exposure to emitted light from the laser printbar imager assembly.

16. (previously presented) The xerographic printing system according to claim 15, wherein the photoreceptor is placed where the beams of at least some of the plurality of vertical cavity surface emitting lasers overlap.

17-20 (cancelled).

21. (previously presented) The xerographic printing system according to claim 15, wherein the number of beams per column in the array along a process direction is 3 or greater.

22. (previously presented) The xerographic printing system according to claim 15, wherein the photoreceptor is placed at or near a position where 50% intensity spot diameters or spot sizes are equal to the raster spacing on the photoreceptor.

23. (previously presented) The xerographic printing system according to claim 15, wherein the photoreceptor is placed at or near a position where greater than 10% but less than 50% intensity spot diameters or spot sizes are equal to the raster spacing on the photoreceptor.

24. (previously presented) The xerographic printing system according to claim 15, wherein the photoreceptor is placed at or near a position where greater than 50% but less than 90% intensity spot diameters or spot sizes are equal to the raster spacing on the photoreceptor.

25. (original) The xerographic printing system according to claim 15, wherein there is substantially no overlap of the micro-optic focusing elements.

26. (original) The xerographic printing system according to claim 15, further comprising a raster output scanner.

27. (original) The xerographic printing system according to claim 16, wherein the xerographic printing system is a laser multifunction system.